GUIDE TO THE NU34 TARASCO FILE

[This file contains data on the Tarasco (Tarasca, or Tarascan) culture of western Mexico. It includes primarily information on those groups retaining indigenous speech at mid-twentieth century, although a wider area of mestizo culture retains many elements of the indigenous. Four unnumbered subheads are used to indicate subdivisions of the Tarascans: Sierra, Lake Pátzcuaro, La Cañada and Mestizo. The sources processed are all modern, but they incorporate in summary much historical background. All were written by professionally trained anthropologists except 4: West, written by a geographer and 11: Boyd, by an historian.

1: Beals is an intensive community study, detailed and thorough, with some data of a comparative nature from other parts of the Tarascan region. 2: Carrasco concentrates on the interrelationships of the folk religion with other aspects of the culture and the changes experienced through acculturation. 3: Beals, Carrasco and McCorkle is an intensive study of domestic buildings, their uses and furnishings, with data on historical and regional variation. 4: West is an excellent introduction to the region, its economy and its local specialization. 5: Beals and Carrasco is a discussion of game equipment and procedure with some comparative data. 6: Friedrich concentrates on community political organization and behavior, formal and otherwise. 7: Kaplan is a study of the conservation of traditional dance forms without comprehension of their significance by the participants. 8: Kaplan and 9: Lasker are two parts of an analysis of ethnic identification. 10: Beals and Hatcher presents information on quantities and types of diets in a Tarascan community. 11: Boyd is a presentation of eight Tarascan legends. The file was processed between 1959 and 1970.]